

May 24, 1973

of GTA is in Minneapolis. About a year ago I accepted and took over the franchise of GTA feeds. My relationship with that co-op is of the very finest. As a competitor the co-op, I have no problem, no concern as long as I can sell ten times more fertilizer than my competitor does, it is not a problem with me, financially or otherwise but I am concerned about the erosion of the tax base. I am concerned about this amendment especially. If it cannot be read on final reading because, as I indicated yesterday, there is \$5,000,000 worth, 5.2 I believe, to be exact, million dollars worth of revenue in LB 526 which is not an increase of anyone's taxes but it's an earlier payment of those taxes because of the provisions of LB 526. There will be about a million and a half advantage in the 73-74 and in 74-75 a 5.2 million dollars and, of course, then that earlier payment, prepayment will have run its course and there is no longer that advantage, however, it does remain available to the State coffers. I'm serious as Chairman of the Revenue Committee, to stop this amendment, to keep the status quo. The only reason this is even available in 526, this section of the statute, was to clarify something that is,

(End of Belt #13)

(Start Belt #14)

to clarify the technical aspects of something that is being done currently by the Revenue Department at the direction of the Legislature in 1967 so I'm very serious as a member, Chairman of the Revenue Committee, to maintain this tax as other taxes that I have stood for in the past and it is not a matter of competition with the co-ops in my community or in my own financial interests.

PRESIDENT: Senator Syas then Whitney, then Snyder.

SENATOR SYAS: Very brief again. You know there are similar, other agencies in the State, activities that are similar to the co-ops and I say the credit unions. What are you going to do when they come down for the same type of tax cut and these other things, you going to give it to them or you going to--must of stuck him with a feather, or are you going to turn--close the door on them, other similar ones and say that, no the farmer co-op is different, he deserves special treatment or you going to be fair and I can predict right now you w--you'll make the others pay taxes. Now, I think it was Senator Simpson brought up an interesting thing, he said one of the big tax cuts involved in this thing will be Sunkist oranges, I imagine he's talking about. Well it made me think of--look at all the growth--grape growers that are co-ops in California. We're going to give them a nice tax cut too? Who we doing this for, Nebraska people or for out state people, other states? Now I, I re--I wish to reemphasize again like Carpenter, Senator Carpenter did that the milk co-ops had an awful lot of money to throw away on election campaigns so they must be making it. Pardon? They buy, Senator Carpenter said and I think he's right there. They had all this and it was several hundred thousand dollars as I recall. Are we helping them so they can contribute more to political campaigns? I'm not against political campaigns and contributions, fact is I've got a few, not a whole lot but some but it's the idea that if they're, if they're poor, generally the poor don't contribute to your campaigns, any campaign and I wish to say to Senator